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KENNEDY SHOWTIME July 16, 1963

CKLW-TV 3:10 P.M.

Windsor, Ontario

"INTERVIEWS BARBARA POWERS"

THE TV SCREEN SHOWED MR. KENNEDY INTERVIEWING BARBARA POWERS AND WILLIAM DIEHL.

BILL KENNEDY: "Tell me, was Cyrus Eaton involved in his release. Can you answer that -- of Cleveland?

BILL DIEHL: "Tell him what you said when you saw the article."

BARBARA POWERS: "I said, 'Baloney.'"

KENNEDY: "He had nothing to do with it? Cyrus Eaton was supposed to be a close friend of Khrushchev's, and who was an intermediary according to this story."

DIEHL: "From what we know --"

MRS. POWERS: "He was not."

DIEHL: "This was supposed to be a big publicity deal for Mr. Eaton."

KENNEDY: "Do you think so?"

DIEHL: "Oh, yes. There are too many strange untruths -- right, Barbara? -- in this article, if you're referring to the Parade article, the Sunday article."

KENNEDY: "Yes, that's right."

DIEHL: "He doesn't need it. He doesn't need money, but he certainly needs to be made to look like a hero in helping free a hero. I think that was the whole purpose."

KENNEDY: "Oh, no, no, I don't agree with you there."

DIEHL: "Well, I do."

KENNEDY: "I don't think he wanted to be a hero, not Cyrus Eaton. Very well."

DIEHL: "Okay. I've interviewed him several times."

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KENNEDY: "A wonderful man. Anyway, you were telling me about this flight over Russia, and about whether Mr. Powers should -- do you want to explain as you did earlier?"

DIEHL: "You mean about the orders to destroy the plane?"

KENNEDY: "About the orders to destroy the plane."

DIEHL: "Bill, what caused quite a controversy in this country after the capture revolved around two things. He had on him a poison needle or pin concealed. The CIA never told him he must (At this point, sound went off) if he got plane into flying range or in trouble. This could be done because there were three pounds of Cycronite, high explosives in this plane."

KENNEDY: "Yes."

DIEHL: "He would get a throttle or button, be ejected so his safety was assured, and then the plane would practically disintegrate and --"

KENNEDY: "There would be no evidence."

DIEHL: "Correct. Now, he did not do this. We won't argue about him being cowardly in not using the pin because that could involved religion, taking one's own life, but he did not destroy the plane, and, as a result, the Russians were able to show the whole world pictures of not only the plane, but film from his camera, the rubles which he had in possession which proved he was flying over Russia for a purpose, and hadn't strayed away, and those many things, and Barbara will agree, caused quite a bit of controversy, and the past president of American legion denounced him for that, and said he bent over backwards to co-operate with the Russians."

KENNEDY: "Well, has anyone ever asked Mr. Powers why he did not do this?"

DIEHL: "Barbara can tell you that. I happen to know that the CIA probably did, but nothing was ever --"

KENNEDY: "What was the reason given by your husband as to why he didn't follow through with this idea?"

MRS. POWERS: "There, again, I am most embarrassed, very ashamed of him. He gave the reason, he was afraid to use the button which would eject him and destroy the plane because he was afraid it wouldn't work."

KENNEDY: "He was afraid it wouldn't work."

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MRS. POWERS: "Afraid it would not work. He was afraid it would not work, which could have cost him maybe his leg. Even though, during this entire time, if Gary had returned to the United States, I would have been proud of him, and I did not file for divorce. Gary did."

KENNEDY: "Well, is the divorce final?"

MRS. POWERS: "Final."

KENNEDY: "It is final."

MRS. POWERS: "Final."

KENNEDY: "Now, are you friendly -- I take it you're not on a friendly basis with Mr. Powers."

MRS. POWERS: "Not the senior Mr. Powers, but -- I just prefer not to see them again."

KENNEDY: "Well, I guess that states your feeling toward him. Now, tell me, is there any possibility of Mr. Powers also writing a book about his experiences, you know, this U-2 incident."

MRS. POWERS: "Well, as you know, Lockheed developed the U-2."

KENNEDY: "Oh, this is where he is now, isn't he?"

MRS. POWERS: "And he is working now as a test engineer in Burbank, California, which I firmly believe Lockheed offered him a position with the company because C. I. A. probably asked them to. I don't believe that Gary will ever be free of the C. I. A."

KENNEDY: "You don't think so?"

MRS. POWERS: "And their surveillance with his actions, because they are still not satisfied with the answers to a lot of their questions."

KENNEDY: "We're running out of time, but how does the C. I. A. -- do they ever contact you? Do you have to be concerned with them too?"

MRS. POWERS: "I know many of them."

KENNEDY: "Well, I want to wish you the best of luck with your book and, Bill Diehl, it's a pleasure seeing you over here again. And Mrs. Powers, thank you and Bill."

BILL DIEHL: "Thanks a lot."

KENNEDY: "I hope you enjoy your stay in Detroit until the book is finished. And the name of it is going to be --?"

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DIEHL: "Fly Away, My Love."

KENNEDY: "Fly Away, My Love -- the story of Barbara Powers."

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